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PART--I-- Orders and Notifications by the Government of Tripura, The High Court, Government Treasury etc.

Government of Tripura
Department of Industries & Commerce
Khejurbagan, Agartala

No.F.II-2(23)/GEO/DI/SRMM/2025/15154 Dated, Agartala the 26th August, 2025.

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (m) of sub-section (1A) of Section 15 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act,1957 the Government of Tripura hereby makes the following rules, namely: -

1. Short title and commencement. –

(1) Theserules may be called the Tripura Star Rating of Minor Mineral Rules, 2025.

(2) These rules shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Tripura Gazette.

2. Definition. -

a. "Committee" means a dedicated committee notified by the Government of Tripura for carrying out inspection of mines;

b. "mining lease" means a lease granted for the purpose of undertaking mining operations.

c. "star rating" of minor mineral refers to a system for evaluating and ranking the sustainability and environmental responsibility of minor mineral mining operations. This system, aims to encourage best practices and ensure compliance with regulations. The framework may consider factors like operational efficiency, environmental protection, and worker welfare;

3.State Level Inspection Committee– within a time period of three months from the notification of these rules, the State Government shall, by issuing a notification in the official Gazette, constitute a State Level Inspection Committee comprising of officers from relevant administrative departments of the State Government.

4. **Powers and functions of State Level Inspection Committee**: -

(i) The committee shallconduct routine inspections of mines to assess their adherence to safety regulations, environmental and other norms, in relation to star rating of minor minerals.
(ii) The committeeshallhave the power oversee the actual mining activities to ensure that they are conducted in accordance with the self-assessment submitted by the lease holders.
(iii) The Committee shall have the authority to confirms star ratings, issue orders and notices in relation to suspension and revocation of mining operations.
(iv) The committee shall have at least, one meeting in every three months.
(v) Any decision taken by the committee cannot be put to question on account of absence of any of its members.
(vi) Two-third of the members of the committee shall form the quorum for its meeting.

5. **Sustainable Mining** – Every holder of a mining lease shall take all possible precautions for undertaking sustainable mining while conducting mining operations in the area.

6. **Star Rating** - Every holder of a mining lease shall monitor his mining and allied activities as perthe template of star rating notified by the State Government.

7. **Self-assessment** – Every holder of a mining lease shall submit its self-assessment report before the 1st day of July every year for the previous financial year, in such format, along with such information, as may be notified by the State Government.

8. **Confirmation** - The confirmation of the star rating may be done by the State Level Inspection Committee, constituted under rule 3 hereinabove, by issuing such order as may be deemed appropriate. For the holders of mining lease, whose self-assessment could not be so confirmed by the State Level Inspection Committee, separate orders for each of such lease holders shall be issued specifying therein the reasons there of.

9. **Suspension of the mining operation** - The State Level Inspection Committee may suspend the mining operations for those mines where at least three-star rating has not been achieved within a period of one year from the date of notification of these rules or from the date of commencement of mining operations, whichever earlier, after giving a show cause notice of forty-five days for such reasons as may be mentioned therein.

10. **Appeal** – The holder of a mining lease may, within a period of thirty days from the date of receipt of the communication of the order of suspension of mining lease, passed by the State Level Inspection Committee under rule 9, prefer an appeal against such order to the Designated Authority, as may be notified by of the State Government.

11. **Revocation of suspension** - The suspension shall be revoked only after verification through inspection of compliance of the star rating requirement specified in rule 9, that the mine qualifies for three-star rating, on submission of revised self-assessment report in the format notified under rule 7.

12. **Penalty** – Any contravention of these rules shall be punishable with fine which may extend to fifty thousand rupees, and in the case of a counting contravention, with additional fine which may extend to five thousand rupees for every day during which such contravention continues after conviction for the first such contravention.

(Kiran Gitte, IAS)
Secretary to the Govt. of Tripura